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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/066,075

01/31/2002

Toshiyuki Iino

FUJI 14.954A

4759

26304

7590

12/02/2004

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EXAMINER

VANDERPUYE, KENNETH N

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2661

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/066,075

Applicant(s)

IINO ET AL.

Examiner

Kenneth N Vanderpuye

Art Unit

2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 8- 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanabe (5,471,460) in view of Hsing et al.(6,167,025).

With regards to claims 8, 9 Tanabe teaches an exchange setting transmission path for ...a switch comprising a plurality of switches, said switched provided with a plurality of inputs and a plurality of outputs so that the transmission path is formed between the inputs and outputs by routing the switches in said switch network, said exchange changing a route of the transmission path when a malfunction occurs in one of the switches so as to bypass the malfunctioning switch(Fig. 2-4), said exchange comprising: a malfunctioning switch detecting means for detecting a location of the malfunctioning switch in said network (col. 4 lines 38-42). What Tanabe fails to teach is the frame or header changing means for changing the frame contents or the header information so as to bypass the

malfunctioning switch detected by said malfunctioning switch detector means. This feature is taught by, Hsing (col. 4 lines 30-40, see claim 1, new VPI/VCI to reroute traffic around failed node). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine Hsing with Tanabe for the purpose of rerouting ATM traffic within an exchange by changing VPI/VCI. The motivation being the flexible restoration of virtual connections unique to ATM traffic around failed nodes.

Claim 10 is rejected because VPI/VCI is routing information.

Claim 11 is rejected because official notice is taken that a routing tag is added to a header to route a packet through a switch. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to use a routing tag to reroute a packet around a failed switch. The motivation being to avoid reassigning a new VPI to the switch output.

Claim 12 is rejected because official notice is taken that the inclusion of the information regarding a failed switch is a means for reporting the failed switch to other switches. It would have been obvious to combine this well known art with Tanabe for the purpose of updating other switches of the failed switch. The motivation being to inform the destination of the failure.

Claim 13 is rejected for the same reasons as claims 8-9 because it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that a change in VPI/VCI implicitly means a malfunction has occurred.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth N Vanderpuye whose telephone number is 571-272-3078. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(7:30-5:00) Second Friday Off.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



KENNETH VANDERPUYE
PRIMARY EXAMINER

KNV
11/21/04